Climate

What is requested? NOAA's Climate Goal requests $230.1 M in FY 2007, reflecting a net increase of $24.1 M over the FY 2007 base level. This increase includes (i) $14.5 M for high priority Climate Change Science Program research and US Integrated Earth Observation System activities; (ii) $4.0 M to address the effects of drought in the west in response to the Western Governors Association request for NOAA leadership in the implementation of the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) Plan; (iii) $5.1 M to sustain data archive, access, assessment, and quality control of digital data activities, and (iv) $0.5 M to improve the understanding and prediction of climate variability and change on U.S. marine ecosystems in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska in support of the President's U.S. Ocean Action Plan recommendation for an integrated approach to oceans management. NOAA also requests $1M to support research supercomputing; this is a cross-goal request from Climate and Weather & Water to improve NOAA's environmental modeling capabilities for improved decision support information.

What are the benefits? The Climate request is focused on increasing our predictive capability over a range of time-scales (intraseasonal to decadal and beyond) and improved attribution of observed (20th century) climate variability and change. This capability will enable us to provide NOAA customers (e.g. farmers, utilities, land managers, business owners, energy, re-insurance, weather risk industry, fisheries resource managers and decision makers) with assessments of current and future impacts of regional to global climate events such as major droughts, floods, long-term climate trends, trends in extreme climate events. For example, providing resource managers knowledge and predictive tools for adapting to the consequences of climate variability and change on marine ecosystems, can lead toward improving the management of Alaskan fisheries (e.g., pollock, cod, halibut, salmon, and crab), valued at over $1 billion per year.

Why do we need it? Changes in climate greatly affect our society and environment. Policy-makers and business leaders are increasingly dependent on climate information to manage water resources, agriculture, energy use, and human health. The data collected worldwide by NOAA increases our understanding of the climate system resulting in a greater ability to provide accurate forecasts and assessments. The program increases will provide a broad-scale view of the climate system, determine uncertainties in climate prediction, and provide improved assessments of the regional impacts of climate change. These activities are NOAA's contribution to the interagency Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) and the Integrated Earth Observation System, and support the Department of Commerce Goal to "Advance understanding and predict changes in the Earth's environment to meet America's economic, social, and environmental needs".

What will we do? NOAA, in cooperation with national and international partners, will (i) continue to build and maintain the Global Ocean Observing System for climate, which is the ocean component of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS); (ii) support Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska observations and development of biophysical indicators; (iii) support drought impact research for the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) and Regional Decision Support Partnerships; (iv) develop new climate reanalysis data sets to improve operational climate prediction; (v) provide NOAA customers with operational service outlets and customer interfaces for climate information products and forecasts; (vi) enable the installation and commissioning of the remainder of the highly regarded Climate Reference Network stations; (vii) support the Global Climate Observing System which represents the Administration's commitment to the global observing system partnerships with developing nations; (viii) sustain data archive, access, and assessment activities; and (ix) development and utilization of large-scale computer simulations for environmental modeling that provide decision-support information on a timely basis. Many of these activities will contribute to the Climate Change Science Program Synthesis and Assessment reports.

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office: (202) 482-4600 – or – AskNOAABudget@noaa.gov

Climate FY 2007 Budget Request ($ in Millions)*

	FY07 Base	Program Change	Request
ORF	$ 199.0	$ 24.1	$ 223.1
PAC	$ 7.0	$ 0.0	$ 7.0
TOTAL	$ 205.9	$ 24.1	$ 230.1

*Numbers may not add due to rounding.